DROUIN WEST
PRIMARY SCHOOL
EST. 1874

535 Main Neerim Road, Drouin West, 3818
PO Box 176, Drouin, VIC 3818
Ph: (03) 5625 1971
E: drouin.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au
School Principal: Kelly Halliday
www.drouinwest.vic.edu.au
ABN: 81 960 156 844

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Drouin West Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of the school's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide:

- Specialist software to support student learning and assessment in literacy and numeracy
- ICT devices for all years (iPads and Chromebooks)
- Our wide specialist program (including Art, Physical Education, AUSLAN and Science)
- PR1ME Mathematics teaching program
- Significant improvements to school grounds, including exterior boundary fencing and CCTV

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see the one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Holden

Acting Principal

Belinda Forester

School Council President

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PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY OVERVIEW

FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.

PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).

FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.

SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.

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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Year Prep to 6 classroom consumables, materials & equipment *Classroom consumables, materials & equipment over and above the stationery provided in student book packs*	$60.00
Online learning and assessment subscriptions: PR1ME & IXL, PAT Testing *These are specialised software packages to support the teaching and assessment in Literacy and Numeracy.*	$20.00
ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets *The school provides devices for in-class work for all students (iPads and Chromebooks).*	$20.00
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	$10.00
Whole school events • *Athletics carnival - entry and transport* • *Elephant Education Program Year 5&6 students*	$TBA
Total Curriculum Contributions	**$110.00**

Curriculum Contributions – items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the curriculum	**Amount**
PR1ME Numeracy Textbooks X2 'Pr1me Numeracy Textbooks' Prep to Year 6 (Optional contribution item via Maxim Book Pack Supplier) OR Optional payment to the school if sourcing stationery elsewhere.	$30.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
School Sports Victoria affiliation & Tarago District Association SSV charges a per-student fee for schools that choose to participate in their interschool sports program	$5.00
School Communication Tools used by the school community – Compass and SMS	$5.00
First Aid Equipment For supply of first aid consumables and upgrades to furniture & sickbay equipment	$5.00
Total Other Contributions	**$15.00**

Educational items for students to own

Attached is a list of items that the school recommends you purchase from Maxim for your child to individually own and use.

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Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Drouin West Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School Camps *Estimated cost for camps will be between $230.00 - $400.00 per student. 2026 Camps Year 3&4 one night at Allambee Adventure Camp and Year 5&6 two nights at Urban Camp Melbourne City.*	$TBA
School Excursions Year Prep to 6 excursions to be scheduled (parents should allow approximately two excursions per student for 2026 at approximately $30 each.	$TBA
Year 6 'Big Day Out' and Graduation *Day excursion TBC, ceremony, photobook, DWPS Souvenir Pen, Photo Book & Group Photo.*	$TBA
Interschool Sports Program *Estimated cost between $10.00 - $25.00 per student.*	$TBA
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	***$TBA***

Financial Support for Families

Drouin West Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (Increased to $400 in 2026)
- *State Schools Relief (SSR)*
- *Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities*

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Emma Wiesenekker Business Manager
Ph: 03 5625 1971 or Email: *emma.wiesenekker@education.vic.gov.au*

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Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	$110.00
Other Contributions *(Non-tax deductible)*	$15.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	$TBA
Total	**$125.00**

Payment methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments are essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at Drouin West Primary School. Payment can be made as per the options below:-

- **CompassPay (Preferred Method)**
- Cash
- EFTPOS
- Bpay

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and are made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information.